

Brno is a city offering friendly, cosmopolitan atmosphere, colourful festivities; it is a city twined by grapevine and shaped up by ancient wine-growing traditions. The Czech saying "small things are nice" holds true here. A quick tour of the historic centre takes only a few hours and you will still have some time left to explore interesting sights and exchange a few words with people you meet along the way. In short, falling in love and being fond of the city – bitterly, sweetly and forever – is not hard.



## BRNO IS

- the second largest city in the Czech Republic with almost 400,000 inhabitants
- a centre of universities, science, research and innovations
- a city of interesting architecture, notably from the period of Functionalism
- a city of Villa Tugendhat, the only modern architecture landmark in the Czech Republic inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List
- a city that boasts two castles – Špilberk and Veveří
- a city of exhibitions and fairs; the exhibition centre was ceremonially opened in 1928
- a bishop's seat; the Brno Bishopric was founded in 1777
- a city where Gregor Johann Mendel (1822–1884), abbot of the Old Brno monastery, discovered the laws of modern genetics
- a city where the world-famous composer Leoš Janáček (1854–1928) lived and composed his music
- a city of records; the present-day Mahen Theatre was the very first theatre in Europe illuminated by Edison's light bulbs as early as 1882
- home to the tallest building in the Czech Republic (AZ Tower, 111 m)
- a place where you can admire the most peculiar clockwork in the Czech Republic (náměstí Svobody square)
- a city with the largest ossuary in Europe located at St. James' Church
- a city where the cathedral bells on Petrov chime midday at 11 o'clock; this relates to a legend dating from the time of the Swedish siege during the Thirty Years' War
- a city of cafés, summer celebrations, festivals and fireworks
- venue of the World Motorcycle Championship and other important sports events



## TOP DESTINATIONS

### Villa Tugendhat

Černopólní 45 | [www.tugendhat.eu](http://www.tugendhat.eu)  
The Functionalist Villa of the Tugendhats with an untraditional lay-out and unique technological equipment, masterpiece of the architect Ludvig Mies van der Rohe from the 1930's was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2001. The tour of the villa interior is in great demand and must be booked in advance; however, the garden may be visited without any previous arrangements.

### Špilberk Castle

Špilberk 1 | [www.spilberk.cz](http://www.spilberk.cz)  
The royal castle dating from the 13th century and rebuilt into a Baroque fortress in the 17th and 18th centuries used to be the most notorious prison in the entire Habsburg Monarchy and was known as the "Jail of Nations". It presently houses the Brno City Museum with permanent exhibitions dedicated to the history of the castle and of the city and occasional art exhibitions. The public can also visit the casemates – gloomy spaces in the bulwark originally designed as a shelter for soldiers and later used as a prison for felons. The castle is surrounded by a vast park giving views of the city.



### The Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul

Petrov 1 | [www.katedrala-petrov.cz](http://www.katedrala-petrov.cz)  
The original Romanesque basilica on the Petrov hillock rebuilt in the Gothic style. The Gothic Revival style modifications come from the beginning of the 20th century. Besides the Baroque interior of the cathedral, both towers and the crypt are open to the public. The cathedral along with Špilberk Castle create the characteristic skyline of the city of Brno. You can descend from Petrov along the upper terrace of the Capuchin gardens to the Denisovy sady park.

### Old Town Hall

Radnická 8 | [www.ticbrno.cz](http://www.ticbrno.cz)  
The oldest and most interesting secular building in Brno, the seat of town councillors from mid-13th century. The council moved to the New Town Hall in Dominican Square as late as 1935. It features the legendary Gothic portal with a crooked turret and the passage „inhabited“ by the famous dragon, beloved and respected symbol of the city of Brno. You can also visit its tower with a look-out gallery, information centre and exhibition spaces.

### Brno Underground

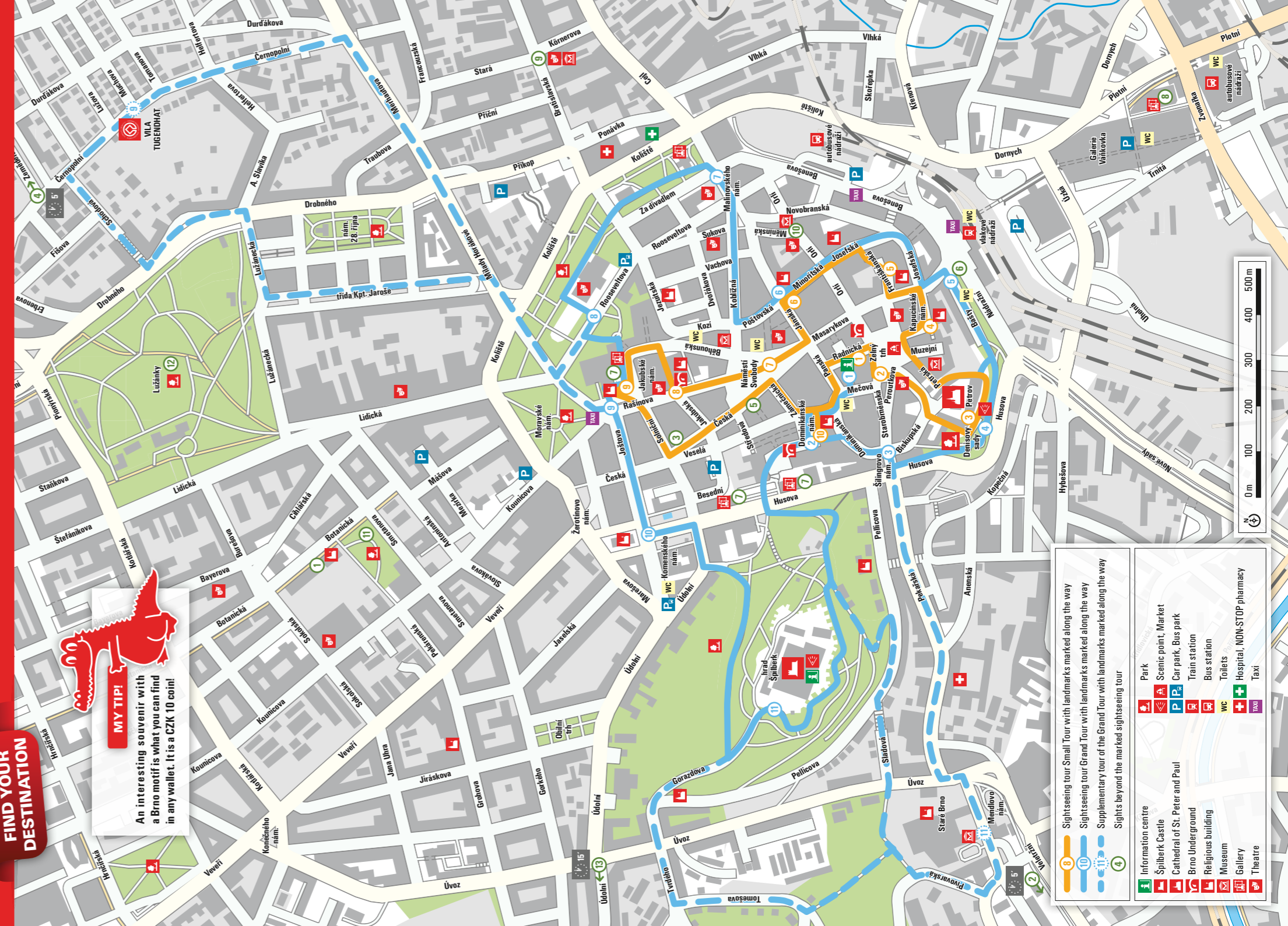
Zelný trh, Jakubské nám., Dominikánské nám. | [www.ticbrno.cz](http://www.ticbrno.cz)  
Three parts of the Brno underground that have been open to the public offer a look below the surface of roads and squares. The largest of them is the Labyrinth under Vegetable Market, historically the oldest public space in the city offering an interesting tour. You can also descend into the underground when visiting Mintmaster's Cellar in Dominican Square and the Ossuary under St. James' Church. This largest ossuary in the Czech Republic and the second largest in Europe holds the remains of more than 50 thousand deceased. The tour of the modern collectors, i.e. tunnels for utility lines, is quite an experience, too.



## DO NOT MISS...

- The rumour has it that the stone master was not paid for the portal of the Old Town Hall and therefore he intentionally crooked the central turret in the portal.
- A small oddity of the High Gothic Style can also be found on the facade of St. James' Church – a little man positioned over the southern window of the church tower and sticking out his naked buttocks at the passers-by below.
- Vegetable Market (Zelný trh) situated a stone's throw from the Old Town Hall has borne its name since the 15th century. Herb, fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs, honey, spice and flowers are sold there to date.

## FIND YOUR DESTINATION



**MY TIP!**  
An interesting souvenir with a Brno motif is what you can find in any wallet. It is a CZK 10 coin!

**Sightseeing tour Small Tour** with landmarks marked along the way  
**Sightseeing tour Grand Tour** with landmarks marked along the way  
**Supplementary tour of the Grand Tour** with landmarks marked along the way  
**Sights beyond the market sightseeing tour**

Information centre	Park	Scenic point, Market
Špilberk Castle	Car park, Bus park	Car park, Bus park
Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul	Bus station	Bus station
Brno Underground	Toilets	Toilets
Religious building	Hospital, NON-STOP pharmacy	Hospital, NON-STOP pharmacy
Museum	Taxi	Taxi
Gallery		
Theatre		



## Religious heritage

### St. James' Church 8

Jakubské nám. | [www.svatyjakubbrno.wz.cz](http://www.svatyjakubbrno.wz.cz), [www.ticbrno.cz](http://www.ticbrno.cz)  
Late Gothic church with a 94m tall tower and an ossuary open to the public.

### Old Brno Abbey and the Basilica of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary 11

Mendlovo nám. | [www.opatbrno.cz](http://www.opatbrno.cz)  
Gothic Cistercian convent, since 1783 an Augustinian abbey. The father of genetics, G. J. Mendel, was one of the abbots of the monastery, and the organ was played here by young Leoš Janáček.

### Capuchin Church of Finding of the Holy Cross with a crypt 4

Kapucínské nám. | [www.kapucini.cz](http://www.kapucini.cz)  
The crypt under the Capuchin Church that is open to the public is the final resting place of the members of the Order and other dignitaries.

### Hus Congregation 1

Botanická 1 | [www.ccsbrno.cz/no/botanicka](http://www.ccsbrno.cz/no/botanicka)  
The first modern Functionalist-style sacral structure in the city and one of the first structures of this type in Europe.

## Do you like functionalism and modern architecture?

### THEN YOU SHOULD NOT MISS

→ The exhibition centre with main Hall A 2, look-out tower and other original structures offers an interesting collection of Functionalist architecture serving the original purpose for over 80 years. [www.bvv.cz](http://www.bvv.cz)

→ The Avion Hotel 3 designed by B. Fuchs with a 7m-wide facade is one of the narrowest hotels in Europe (Česká street).

→ The Era café 4 built in the Functionalist style is located near Tugendhat Villa. The simple and clean lines are complemented by a distinctly coloured staircase with a remarkable curving (Zemědělská 30). [www.eracafe.cz](http://www.eracafe.cz)

→ Komerční banka 5 in the Functionalist style was built based on the design by B. Fuchs and A. Wiesner in náměstí Svobody square.

→ Single-storey Functionalist structure featuring an arched facade by architect Poříška at the junction of Nádražní and Bašty streets is the seat of the Čedok travel agency. 6

### Brno Architecture Trails [www.bam.brno.cz](http://www.bam.brno.cz)

Fourteen sightseeing routes, ninety-eight architects and almost four hundred structures erected between 1918–1945 – all this is offered by the Brno Architecture Manual.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT?

→ Moravské náměstí square 9 9 boasts works of art symbolising a trio of virtues: Justice (statue in front of the Supreme Administrative Court), Prudence (a mock-up showing the town during the Swedish siege) and Temperance (fountain).

→ The Reduta in the Vegetable Market 2 is one of the oldest theatre buildings in Central Europe. The stage was constructed as early as 1600. In 1767, the eleven-year-old W. A. Mozart gave a concert here; this event is commemorated by a statue in front of the buildings.

## Museums

### Brno City Museum 11

Špilberk 1 | [www.spilberk.cz](http://www.spilberk.cz)  
The museum is based in Špilberk Castle. Besides a number of exhibitions focusing on architecture, visual arts and the history of Brno, the castle interior and its notorious jail, you can also visit its renowned casemates.

### Moravian Museum 2

Zelný trh 6 | [www.mzm.cz](http://www.mzm.cz)  
The second largest and also the second oldest museum in the Czech Republic housing a collection of over 6 million items from the fields of natural and social sciences.

### Anthropos Pavilion

Pisárecká 5 | [www.mzm.cz/pavilionanthropos/](http://www.mzm.cz/pavilionanthropos/)  
A part of the Moravian Museum. A unique institution in the Czech Republic documenting human evolution and history of European settlement. The extraordinary number of finds dating from the earliest periods of human history is supplemented by an attractive life-size mammoth model.

### Mendel Museum 11

Mendlovo nám. 1 | [www.mendelmuseum.muni.cz](http://www.mendelmuseum.muni.cz)  
You can meet the founder of modern genetics, G. J. Mendel, directly at the Augustinian Abbey in Old Brno, i.e. the place where this man of science lived, experimented and made his research.

### Technical Museum in Brno

Purkyňova 105 | [www.technicalmuseum.cz](http://www.technicalmuseum.cz)  
A number of exhibits are dedicated, for example, to the history of transport, aviation and water-power and steam engines. Craftsmen's workshops and a play room with a host of interactive models are an inviting attraction.

## Galleries and arts

### The Brno House of Arts 7

Malinovského nám. 2 | [www.dum-umeni.cz](http://www.dum-umeni.cz)  
The art is presented in two exhibition buildings, the Functionalist Brno House of Arts with Gallery G99 dedicated to the works of the youngest generation of artists and the Renaissance House of the Lords of Kunštát in Dominikánská Street.

### Moravian Gallery in Brno 7

Husova 18, Husova 14, Moravské nám. 1a | [www.moravska-galerie.cz](http://www.moravska-galerie.cz)  
The second largest art museum in the Czech Republic is exceptional in its range of collections. It houses paintings, drawings, graphics and statues as well as photographs, applied art, graphic design and architecture.

### Jurkovič Villa

Jana Nečase 2 | [www.moravska-galerie.cz](http://www.moravska-galerie.cz)  
The house of architect D. Jurkovič's family from 1906 is as important for the Art Nouveau style in Brno as Tugendhat Villa for the Functionalist style in Brno.

### Mitrovský Summer Pavilion

Veletržní 19 | [www.letohradekbrno.cz](http://www.letohradekbrno.cz)  
The original summer pavilion dating from the 18th century is the venue of exhibitions, concerts, performances and other events.

### Wannieck Gallery 8

Ve Vaňkovce 2 | [www.wannieckgallery.cz](http://www.wannieckgallery.cz)  
The contemporary art gallery is housed in the renovated Vaňkovka industrial premises.

### TIPS NOT ONLY FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

#### → Puppet Museum in Radost Theatre 9

Bratislavská 32 | [www.divadlo-radost.cz](http://www.divadlo-radost.cz)  
Exhibition displaying a collection of the most beautiful puppets that acted in stage productions.

#### → The Měnin Gate and the Toy Museum 10

Měnínská 7 | [www.meninska-brana.cz](http://www.meninska-brana.cz)  
The only well-preserved gate of the medieval bulwark system. The interior houses a museum of vintage toys.

#### → The Zoological Garden of Brno City

U Zoologické zahrady 46 | [www.zoobrno.cz](http://www.zoobrno.cz)  
A modern zoo famous for its repeated breeding of polar bears and Kamchatka brown bears located just 20-minute drive from the city centre.

#### → Minizoo in Tyršův sad 11

In the city centre at the junction of Botanická and Smetanova streets  
A popular place for relaxation with a playground and rosarium in the city centre. It offers a great attraction for children and adults, a miniature zoo with budgerigars, pigeons, rabbits and pot-bellied pigs.

#### → Lužánky Park 12

In the city centre at the junction of Lidická and Pionýrská streets  
The park offers leisure areas as well as a playground and a traffic-rules playground, pétanque zone, tennis courts, leash-free dog zone and an outdoor gym.

#### → Brno Observatory and Planetarium 13

Kraví hora 2 | [www.hvezdarna.cz](http://www.hvezdarna.cz)  
Visitors can look forward to the night observation of the sky and the Sun, multi-visual programmes under an artificial planetarium sky, interactive performances, experimental shows, lectures, seminars and cultural events.



### SIGHTSEEING TOURS OF THE CITY

The sightseeing tours with stopovers are marked in the detailed map.

The most attractive venues in the centre of Brno can be introduced to you via two sightseeing tours. The tours are not demanding and no hiking boots or thorough preparation is needed. All you have to do is to look around and listen as an attentive visitor can hear the city narrate its story.

#### Sightseeing tour SMALL TOUR 3 km approx. 1 h

- 1 Old Town Hall
- 2 Vegetable Market
- 3 Petrov
- 4 Kapucínské náměstí
- 5 Římské náměstí
- 6 Friars Minor Monastery
- 7 Náměstí Svobody
- 8 Jakubské náměstí
- 9 Moravské náměstí
- 10 New Town Hall

#### Sightseeing tour GRAND TOUR 5 km approx. 2 h

- 1 Old Town Hall
- 2 New Town Hall
- 3 Šilingrovo náměstí
- 4 Petrov and Denisovy sady
- 5 Castle
- 6 Friars Minor Monastery
- 7 Malinovského náměstí
- 8 Janáček Opera House
- 9 Moravské náměstí with a supplementary tour to Tugendhat Villa
- 10 Komenského náměstí
- 11 Špilberk with a supplementary tour of Old Brno

## Tips for trips

### Brno Lake

[www.brnskaprehrada.cz](http://www.brnskaprehrada.cz)  
Boat transport: [www.dpmb.cz](http://www.dpmb.cz)  
A popular recreational area with regular boat service.

The banks are flanked by beaches with a number of playgrounds and sports fields, you can also find boat and pedal boat hire and a host of cosy pubs.

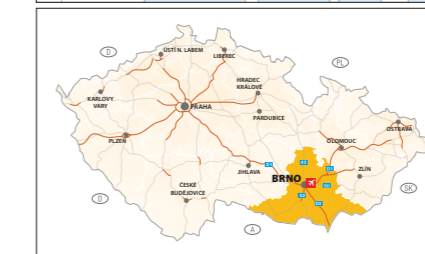


### Veveří Castle

[www.veveri.cz](http://www.veveri.cz)  
The former royal hunter's castle towering above the Brno lake offers its historic interiors and houses temporary exhibitions. Every year from April to October it holds a number of concerts, historic markets and celebrations. The trip towards the castle can be made more pleasant by taking a steam boat.

### Automotodrom Brno – Masaryk Circuit [www.automotodrombrno.cz](http://www.automotodrombrno.cz)

A modern race circuit hosting the Motorcycle World Championship – the Grand Prix of the Czech Republic every August. The circuit is closed to the public except for organised events.



# BRNO SMALL CITY GUIDE



### Brno Tourist Information Centre

Radnická 8 | 658 78 Brno | tel.: +420 542 427 150 | [info@ticbrno.cz](mailto:info@ticbrno.cz) | [www.ticbrno.cz](http://www.ticbrno.cz)  
Opening hours:  
Summer season (April–October): Mon–Fri 8 a.m.–6 p.m. | Sat, Sun, public holidays 9 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Winter season (October–March): Mon–Fri 8 a.m.–6 p.m. | Sat 9 a.m.–5 p.m. | Sun, public holidays 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

### Tourist Information Centre – South Moravia

Radnická 2 | 602 00 Brno | tel.: +420 542 427 170 | [info@ccrjm.cz](mailto:info@ccrjm.cz) | [www.south-moravia.cz](http://www.south-moravia.cz)

### Transport information

The transport in Brno is provided by a municipal transport network, including boat transport at the Brno lake. [www.dpmb.cz](http://www.dpmb.cz), [www.idsjm.cz](http://www.idsjm.cz)  
For information about train and bus transport visit [www.cd.cz](http://www.cd.cz), [www.jizdnirady.cz](http://www.jizdnirady.cz)

### Visitors can use the international airport at Brno-Tuřany.

[www.airport-brno.cz](http://www.airport-brno.cz)

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If you happen to find outdated information or any important information missing, kindly let us know at: [marketing@brno.cz](mailto:marketing@brno.cz)

